

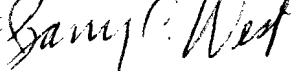


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Chief Information Officer

Washington, D.C. 20230

OCT 12 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR: All Commerce Chief Information Officers

FROM: Barry C. West 

SUBJECT: Blackberry Device Password Supplement to Commerce IT Security Program Policy

In light of the requirements under implementation in response to the Office of Management and Budget Memorandum 06-16, *Protection of Sensitive Agency Information*, the Department has identified a need to enhance its policy and procedures with regard to configuring the password policy for all Commerce-issued Blackberry devices. This policy memo supplements the requirements of section 16.2 and Appendix G of the June 30, 2005, *IT Security Program Policy and Minimum Implementation Standards*. Applicability specified in section 1.2 of the *IT Security Program Policy and Minimum Implementation Standard* pertains to the following policy statement.

In accordance with mandated Security policies, the Commerce CIO has determined that required Blackberry password and time-out policies will be implemented Department-wide within 30 days of the date of this memo. CIOs may enforce more stringent requirements as they deem appropriate. The Department requires the following minimum mandatory Blackberry password requirements:

- Minimum password length: 8 characters
- Required password complexity: at least one alphabetic character and at least one numeric character
- Password expiration: every 90 days
- Password history: previous 24 passwords may not be reused
- Incorrect password attempts: 10 before lockout and loss of device data
- Inactivity timeout: 15 minutes
- End users are prevented from modifying the password policy settings

If you have any questions regarding this interim policy memo, please contact the DOC Chief Information Security Officer, Nancy DeFrancesco, at (202) 482-3490.